

**STATE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Summary – January 21, 2003**

- 9:34 Jeff Kelley-Clarke called the meeting to order. Following introductions, SWAC Members approved the November 2002 Meeting Summary.

**Old Business**

9:38 Minimum Functional Standards: **Cullen Stephenson**

Cullen announced that Chapter 173-350 WAC has been adopted! The codified rules are posted on Ecology's web pages and on the Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program internet site.

9:40 Opening of the Legislative Session: **Member Roundtable**

\_\_ Legislators have re-divided committee members; Senator Morton now chairs the committee on Fisheries, Ecology, and Parks. We submitted no agency-request bills, although we expect to see bills that would reinstate the dollar fee for new tire purchases (to pay for disposal of worn tires), and one allowing garbage trucks weighing less than 26,000 pounds to by-pass the scales.

\_\_ HB1182 would de-regulate the hauling of construction/demolition/land-clearing debris.

\_\_ A couple of bills speak to questions about annexation and whether residents or property-owners vote on the question.

\_\_ The Tacoma Steam Plant wants permission to burn alternative fuels; they need a new Air Operating Permit...so they want to be regulated under Chapter 173-434 WAC. TSP operators are proposing an amendment to Chapter 173-434 WAC that would allow them to operate under federal Solid Waste Incinerator performance standards.

9:46 Mercury Action Plan: **Mike Gallagher**

Mike described where mercury comes from —its natural and man-made sources— what it does in products and processes, and how mercury contamination affects human health and the environment. The overall goal of the plan is to address human-caused releases. Immediate objectives include eliminating the cremation of dental amalgam, and discouraging energy production from coal-fired power plants. He spoke of the need to educate consumers, law makers, and manufacturers and retailers; we need a secure repository for "quick silver" and to provide clear disposal/recycling options (we proposed a study of nine landfills, though no monitoring has been funded thus far).

*Why study Washington's landfills, when financial resources are so scarce? Are our landfill gases different from those in other states? Is [the study] a priority?*

*How do amounts of human-caused mercury exposures compare with naturally occurring sources? What about frequency of contamination from consumer products versus from other sources? We need some kind of cost-benefit matrix to determine where to invest our time.*

10:28 Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan: **Cheryl Smith**

Cheryl reported that the "Beyond Waste" plan development is becoming more intensive. The process will be structured similar to the MFS chapter revision. Subcommittee meetings will be frequent and intense work-sessions; participants will be expected to promote and help implement the Plan [and the cultural change it promotes]. Cheryl distributed a description of roles, and the schedule for subcommittee activities. She invited interested SWAC members to contact her within the next ten days, about serving on the sub-committee along with individuals from other interest sectors.

11:20 Proposed Budget: **Cullen Stephenson**

Natural Resources agencies are sitting on a very workable budget. The Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program currently spends about eight million dollars per biennium. We lack one engineer (for technical assistance) on the east side; extra funding for litter control was cut. Cullen advised SWAC to beware “consolidating fund sources” proposals; they’re attempts to raid our resources –especially MTCA State and Local Control Accounts. Although the WUTC does not depend on General Account funds, the Public Service Revolving Account could also be raided.

## New Business

### 11:38 Proposed Year 2003 SWAC Meeting Topics: Member Roundtable

- Results of the JLARC – CPG Program revisions
- Follow-up on the implementation of Chapter 173-350 WAC, M.F.S.
- A look at Pierce County’s junk-vehicle removal program
- Review a draft of the Statewide Plan [for moving] Beyond Waste
- Promote CRT/electronic wastes management legislation
- Develop funding strategies that DON’T rely on tipping fees
- Landfills versus Illegal Dumpsites / challenges to operators
- Recycling: definitions, data collection/correlating/distribution
- Revisit the clopyralid issue (in July)
- Report on the CPG Supplemental Funding projects
- Submit recommendations for the Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence

### 11:53 **SWAC/Ecology Announcements/Public Comments**

\_\_\_ We need to discuss Financial Assurance for hazardous waste CTD businesses  
\_\_\_ A facility is charging \$195 per ton for waste tires in Stevens County  
\_\_\_ Waste tires left by WalMart and Costco customers are collected by Tire Depot and shipped to Montana for processing.

## Noon **SWAC Adjourned**

### *Attending Members/Alternates:*

Dennis Durbin   Dennis Hein   Peter Keller   Jeff Kelley-Clarke   Brad Lovass   Craig Lorch  
Jim Matsuyama   Deborah Reynolds   Bob Schille   Sally Toteff   Eddie Westmoreland

### *Attending Nonmembers:*

Andy Comstock   Bill Dean   Linda Dennis   Henry Friedmann   Rob Guttridge   Jerry Smedes

### 12:30 Landfill Operator Certification:

A SWAC subcommittee, (comprised of Bob S./Eddie W., Rod, and Brad from the SWAC, and Bob Jones and Henry Friedmann from outside the SWAC) studied the question and responded:

**Henry Friedmann** of SWANA described the background of this issue and the advantages (to the state) if SWANA should take over administration of the certification program. Many minor changes would have to be made to the rule, since it currently requires the state to administer landfill operator certification.

SWANA would only recognize MOLO-certified operators, and operators who pass the written examination and undergo 30 hours of applicable continuing education. But SWANA commits to offering MOLO courses in Washington every two years; the continuing education need not be SWANA training so long as it is landfill operations related (e.g. transportation, fire suppression, enforcement). SWANA would need to work out the costs and assure that CE unit(s) courses (and credits for participation in conferences) are clearly defined and available locally.

The subcommittee will outline the [certification and administrative] requirements in the existing rule, and define how SWANA could fill in the gaps.

### 1:16 Subcommittee Adjourned